

8-23-04 IFW RCE

PTO/SB/30 (08-03)

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AUG 20 2004

**REQUEST****FOR****Continued Examination (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450, Mail Stop RCE  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number

09/973,602

Filing Date

October 9, 2001

First Named Inventor

CHOCKLEET, Blane L. et al.

Group Art Unit

1774

Examiner Name

HESS, Bruce H.

Attorney Document Number

CHOCK1

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

**1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office Action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office Action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.i. ☐ Consider the amendments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_ii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_b. ☒ Enclosedi. ☒ Amendment/Reply

08/24/2004 SSITHIB1 00000112 09973602

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

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385.00 DP

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_**2. Miscellaneous**a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

b. Other \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 20-1507i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 595.00 enclosedc. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)

James Hunt Yancey, Jr.

Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)

53,809

Signature

Date

August 20, 2004

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Mail Stop RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: August 6, 2004 EXPRESS MAIL Number: EV 520645556 US

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Kimberly L. Weems

Signature

Date

August 20, 2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.14. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 36 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Application No.: 09/973,602  
Amendment Dated: 20 August 2004  
Reply to Final Office Action of: 23 March 2004  
Attorney Docket No.: CHOCK1  
Customer No.: 06980

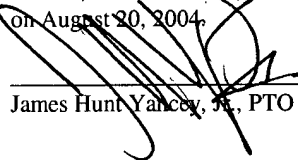
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF:	)	EXAMINER: <b>Bruce H. Hess</b>
<b>Blane L. Chocklett et al.</b>	)	
APPLICATION SERIAL NO.:	)	GROUP ART UNIT: <b>1774</b>
<b>09/973,602</b>	)	
FILED:	)	CONFIRMATION NO.: <b>6175</b>
<b>October 9, 2001</b>	)	
TITLE:	)	
<b>ARTS AND CRAFTS</b>	)	
<b>MATERIAL</b>	)	

Express Mail # EV 520645556 US

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as EXPRESS MAIL in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Honorable Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on August 20, 2004.

  
James Hunt Yancey, Jr., PTO Reg. No. 53,809

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**MAIL STOP RCE**  
**Honorable Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

In response to the *Final Office Action*, Paper No. 12, from Primary Examiner Bruce H. Hess of Art Unit 1774, mailed 23 March 2004, Applicants submit this Preliminary Amendment with a Request for Continued Examination. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks and amendments.

**IN THE DRAWINGS**

Please amend FIGs. 1-3 as shown in the Annotated Marked-up Drawing sheet and the Replacement Sheet in Appendix A. Applicants have amended FIGs. 1-3 to include references to features previously illustrated in the Drawings. Specifically, FIGs. 1-3, as amended, reference a base material surface 2 and base material perimeter 4. Applicants submit that Amended FIGs. 1-3 introduce no new matter. It is believed that amended FIGs. 1-3 in the Replacement sheet fully conform to 37 C.F.R. 1.84.